(*a*) whether Government have seriously considered the possibilities of making paper as a cottage industry ;

(*b*) what are Government activities in that line ;

(*c*) what is the result of such activities ?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development) :*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) From 1115, experiments were carried on at the Rural Development Centre, Cherpu, with different raw materials such as waste paper, plantain stalks, straw, bamboo chips, rags, tailors cuttings, lemon grass, etc. (2) Experiments by Mr. Iswara Ayyar at Trichur under the direct supervision of the Industries Department.

(*c*) The experiments have proved to be successful.

CIVIL SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT—IRREGULARITIES—ENQUIRY REGARDING

169. Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi) :* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether Government have cared to make a searching enquiry into the working of the Civil Supplies Department after its institution to find out if there are any irregularities connected with it as done in the Sister State of Travancore ;

(*b*) if not will Government be pleased to do so at an early date ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government) :*

(*a*) No.

(*b*) Will be considered if it is found necessary.

ACREAGE, ETC., OF LANDS PLANTED WITH HILL PADDY

170. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi) :* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the total acreage of lands now planted with Hill Paddy ;

(*b*) what all varieties of paddy have been sown now ;

(*c*) the total acreage cleared already for other food crops to be raised ;

(*d*) and (*e*) what are the different varieties of food crops cultivated and the acreage of each variety ;

(*f*) the total amount spent so far on the Hill Paddy scheme ;

(*g*) the number of officers employed so far for the working of the scheme ;

(*h*) are all the officers doing work now ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government) :*

(*a*) 5,375 acres.

(*b*) Peruvaka, Modan, Cheera, Chembavu and certain Central Provinces varieties like E. B. 13, E. B. 17 and Chathri paddy.

(*c*) 6,625 acres.

(*d*) and (*e*) Tapioca (2,000 acres) Red Gram and other pulses (500 acres) Chama and Ragi (125 acres) Further plantings are in progress.

(*f*) Rs. 5,01,001.

(*g*) 198.

(*h*) No. Only 173 are working now.

Note.—Of the 198 Officers who were on the work, 10 resigned, 1 died and 14 have either left or were removed from service.

171. Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters) :* Will Government be pleased to state.—(*a*) whether Government will make a statement regarding the extent of land cleared for the Hill Paddy scheme, the cost of clearing the areas put under crops, the estimated yield and the estimated all-in cost ;

(*b*) whether in future Government will entrust the work to the cultivators of the State in bits ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government) :*

(*a*) Yes. Extent of land .. .. .. 12,000 acres

Cost of clearing .. .. .. Rs. 3,00,000 approximately

Estimated yield :

(1) Paddy 4 lakhs of paras ..	Rs. 5,00,000
(2) Tapioca 5,000 acres ..	Rs. 7,50,000
(3) Other cereals, pulses, etc., 30,000 paras	Rs. 60,000
Total	13,10,000

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